

Weekly Column for September 16, 2004

I wanted to take some time this week to honor certain individuals who make living in Troy more enjoyable. The extremely important, yet often overlooked, City employees.

On Tuesday afternoon, City Hall employees will gather in the City Council chambers to honor certain employees who have given years of hard work to the residents of Troy.

Amazingly we are honoring two people this year that have been with the City for 35 years. Police Captain David O'Melia and Firefighter Andrew Waterman have been serving the residents and businesses of Troy since 1969. That is an amazing accomplishment.

We also have 11 people that have been with the City for 30 years, not exactly something to quickly dismiss. So congratulations to those people who have worked for three decades in Troy: Daniel Boyce, Neil Daus, John Grimmick Jr., Gary Hanna, Thomas Lane Sr., Donna Luby, John Mulligan Jr., James O'Meara, Robert Paul, Warren Wilson, and Christopher Wood.

Few will be honoring people up and down, from every department in the City. But the last group I would like to acknowledge right now are those who have given a quarter of a century to Troy: Paul Barringer, Robert Davis, Michael Dinova, Joseph House, James Hughs, Harry Hull, Matthew Magill, James Martin, Kevin Perrott, Robert Plunkett, Stephen Ruddy, Jon Schneider, Richard Sprague, and Barbara Tozzi. Congratulations to all of them as well.

As one big happy aside this week, I am happy to announce that Tony Buchanan is coming home from Iraq today after serving his country proudly. For those of you who read this column on a regular, or even semi-regular basis, you will know that I have exchanged letters with Buchanan, and I am extremely happy for both he and his family that he is coming home.

Tony is supposed to arrive at Albany airport today, and his family has a big bash set for him this weekend. Welcome him home in your hearts, and please keep all of our soldiers overseas in your prayers.

That's all I have this week, I'll talk to you next week. In the mean time, any questions, comments, concerns, or complaints can be addressed to me at the Mayor's Office e-mail, or by calling 270-4401.

Harry J Tutunjian  
Mayor of Troy